IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a book block for books[[,]] or brochures~~, or the like~~, from printed sheets connected to each other at folds thereof by thread stitching, the method comprising transferring the printed sheets in a sequence astride with side portions thereof directed downwardly by a conveyor in an accelerated manner onto a feeding device, wherein the feeding device is configured to interact with a stitching device arranged at a right angle relative to the folds of the printed sheets, such that the printed sheets arrive on the feeding device in a stitching position, and shifting the printed sheets to the stitching device for sewing the printed sheets to another printed sheet to form a book block, the method further comprising moving the feeding device ~~into the stitching position~~ towards the stitching device prior to the arrival of a printed sheet in the stitching position.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, comprising moving a printed sheet supplied to the feeding device towards the stitching device by the feeding device after the printed sheet

has passed a rearward end of the feeding device in the conveying direction.

3. (Currently amended) An apparatus for manufacturing a book block for books[[,]] or brochures~~, or the like~~, from printed sheets connected to each other at folds thereof by thread stitching, the apparatus comprising a stitching device for sewing printed sheets at the folds thereof and to each other in a stitching position, and a feeding device configured to interact with and so as to be movable in a direction towards the stitching device for moving a printed sheet received from a conveyor ~~in an accelerated manner~~ and aligned in accordance with the stitching position into a stitching location offset at a right angle, the feeding device comprising an accelerating device for grasping the printed sheets at a conveyor end of the conveyor and for aligning the printed sheets in accordance with the stitching position, the feeding device comprising a liftable stitching saddle and a front conveying section in a conveying direction of the printed sheets configured to be movable into the stitching location of the stitching device, wherein the front conveying section is ~~comprised of a liftable~~ arranged in front of the stitching saddle in the conveying direction.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the stitching saddle is mounted on the feeding device so as to be pivotable by a drive about an axis extending parallel to the fold of the printed sheet.

6. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the feeding device is mounted so as to be pivotable by a drive parallel relative to the pivoting axis of the stitching saddle.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 3, comprising a pivoting drive for the stitching saddle and the feeding device, and a control device connected to the pivoting drive.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the control device is configured to be adjustable for changing the pivoting movements of the stitching saddle and of the feeding device.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the stitching saddle is configured to be controlled so as to be lifted from the feeding device during the pivoting movement thereof into the stitching position of the stitching device.

10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the feeding device has a holding position arranged backwardly offset relative to the stitching saddle in the feeding direction.

11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the feeding device is configured to be controlled so as to be returnable into an initial position prior to the stitching saddle.

12. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising a holding-down device for acting on a fold support of the stitching saddle located in the stitching position.